

JULY 21, 2011

The Town Council met in regular session at the Town Hall at 7:00 p.m.

Present were: CAMPBELL, GIBBS, WARRUM, STRAW, and WALKER along with Clerk-Treasurer Karla Atkins and Attorney Nathan Maudlin.

The following visitors were present: Hugh & Jessica Thompson, Vicki Campbell, Pam Robinson, Don Williams, Jim Stinson, Barb McConnell, Jeanne Maudlin, David Flanders, Johnathon Scott, Gail & Jim Norton, Lena Feiner, Wayne Conyers, Greg Oeth, Bobby Grider, and Scott Champlin.

Councilman Gibbs made and Warrum seconded a motion the minutes of the previous regular and special meetings be approved. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Gas/Street superintendent Bobby Grider reported the Town was given a fluoride award for the prior twelve months from the CDC.

Councilman Straw announced the new police car is in and it should be in service by July 27.

Councilman Straw announced the area where the new fire/EMS station is to be constructed has been marked off and the fill should be put down soon. Construction is estimated to take 170 days.

Councilman Straw announced he is working with FEMA to try to get some reimbursement for the Town for damage and overtime resulting from the spring flooding.

President Campbell announced FEMA will be conducting a meeting on July 27 at 9 a.m. at Thrall's Opera House regarding water issues. He encouraged people to attend. He stated he contacted USGS to have the river surveyed. When these results are received, they will be compared to the 2006 data to determine what impact the high water has had on the bank.

Councilman Walker reported the repairs at the wastewater plant necessitated by a lightning strike are ongoing. By next month, the repairs should be complete, with the cost being covered by insurance.

Councilman Walker commended the Town workers for their diligence in repairing numerous water leaks.

Johnathon Scott, with the Park Board, informed Council some caps are missing at Playtopia and need to be replaced. He will take care of ordering them. He also reported the Park Board will be looking into getting some additional ground cover in the fall.

Clerk-Treasurer Atkins reported Karen Alphonse had asked if the Town would be interested in being a sponsor for the Golden Raintree Auto Show. The Town would need to pay a \$25. fee in exchange for the Town's name being placed on the back of the t-shirt. Council members agreed this is not what the Town is about and they will not become a sponsor.

Hugh Thompson spoke to Council about possible fireworks control. He expressed concern over the use of fireworks in his neighborhood on July 4, 2011. He showed Council numerous items of debris that he found in his yard as a result of these fireworks. He was quite concerned over the possible dangers this might create. Mr. Thompson stated that Town Marshal Champlin had informed him that the Indiana Code allows most anything concerning fireworks. Mr. Thompson commented that I.C. 22-11-13 does permit most any kind of fireworks. However, it also authorizes municipalities to adopt ordinances limiting the use of fireworks as well as the adoption and enforcement of noise ordinances. Mr. Thompson expressed appreciation for any assistance Council may provide.

Jim Stinson, a nearby property owner, who admitted he was not at his property on July 4, 2011, stated he has been a witness to similar occurrences in years past. He also found debris in his yard this year.

Another neighbor, Wayne Conyers, offered support for Mr. Thompson's point of view.

Councilman Straw stated he was also unhappy with the excessive use of fireworks.

President Campbell commented that Town currently has a noise ordinance. Council agreed to research the subject and look into what other communities have done.

Lena Feiner suggested the Town ordinance be amended to designate certain areas where the fireworks may be used.

Park Board President Jeanne Maudlin informed Council the Annual Chili Cook-Off and Arbor Day Ceremony will be held October 15. Applications for those wanting to participate in the Chili Cook-Off will be available at the August Council meeting. Ms. Maudlin also announced that Tri-Kappa has purchased two wire picnic tables for Murphy Park, and they have done some maintenance at the Park recently.

Park Board President Maudlin announced the Posey Co. Soil and Water Conservation District tree sale has begun. The order forms will be available at Town Hall for anyone wishing to purchase a tree and donate it to the tree nursery. Deadline for placing orders is Sept. 15. President Campbell asked if the Park Board planned on buying any trees itself. Park Board President Maudlin stated that can be discussed at the August Park Board meeting.

Park Board President Maudlin thanked Councilman Straw and the Town for maintaining the trail.

Park Board President Maudlin reported Park Board members each have a quadrant of Town that they monitor. In doing so, they are finding a lot of litter. Upon visiting a national park recently, Park Board President Maudlin learned about “leave no trace ethics.” She encouraged residents and visitors alike to practice “leave no trace ethics.”

Don Williams asked if there is a plan for the old fire station once the new station is completed. Council members stated it is planned to be used for storage.

Attorney Maudlin presented checks totaling \$350. for the new fire/EMS station from members of the Workingmen’s Institute.

Clerk-Treasurer Atkins reported trash collection bids were planned to be opened at this meeting. However, due to an error committed by the Posey Co. News, that cannot happen. She asked Council members if they would be interested in renewing the contract with Veolia instead of putting it out for bid. Council members stated there have been some complaints about damaged containers, and they asked that a representative from Veolia attend the next meeting.

Councilman Straw will contact the Harmony Township Trustee to discuss a new lease for the fire/EMS station.

Councilman Warrum made and Straw seconded a motion the claims be allowed and the Clerk pay the same. All were in favor. Motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

David Campbell, President of Town Council

Attest:

Karla L. Atkins, Clerk-Treasurer